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Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Lesotho, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Emergency assistance to Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and 48/188 of 21 December 1993,

Deeply distressed by the grave situation in Montserrat caused by the eruptions of the Montsoufriere volcano,

Welcoming the efforts of the Governments of Montserrat and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the States members of the Caribbean Community to assist the people of Montserrat and to alleviate their suffering,

Noting the response by Governments, the bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, international and regional agencies, non-governmental organizations and private individuals to provide relief,

Welcoming decision 1997/29 of 19 September 1997 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund to

endorse a package of emergency relief measures to be made available to Montserrat,[1]

Recognizing that the magnitude of the disaster and its long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the Governments of Montserrat and the United Kingdom, a further demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concerns to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to meet the emergency situation in Montserrat,

1. Expresses its solidarity and support to the Government and people of Montserrat;

2. Expresses its appreciation to those States, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that have provided emergency relief to Montserrat;

3. Calls upon all States to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

4. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to finalize its proposals for a package of emergency assistance to Montserrat at the earliest possible time;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to monitor the situation in Montserrat with a view to assessing the ecological and developmental impacts of the continuing volcanic eruptions as well as to assisting in the long-term needs of Montserratians, including the needs of evacuees and their rehabilitation;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the situation referred to in paragraph 5 above and on the progress made with the relief and rehabilitation efforts.

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[1] See also DP/1998/1, paras. 193-196.